

FATE.

Life goes on, with scenes changed now,
Just like the tides of ocean, and we go
Upon its flowing banks to and fro.
Because no man has willed it so.

And, like the tangled scenes, we used to pass
Upon this river routes, and little paths
Upon the mighty shore where it did glide.

It's taken some in its impetuous way,
And save the shadows and the sunlight here,
No where the breakers and the billows play.
It throws them down, and shuns the spray.

Like the last carousers, jaded and worn,
These had themselves upon a dusty shore,
Where dust and danger and the tempests roar,
Are of their losses more.

And then it is left, and with desolate strain
Desires the rocks which the waves have won,
Until the tide shall bear them out again.

But to a wily and felonious way,
With various, brazen, and bold, like the
hostile water, implores us to stay.
From where the south and the winds blow.

It throws them to above the changing sea,
Where flowers forever bloom, and life and wa-
ter still perfume them, and the sun
Is thunders them to him.

Each of the stars, each scene, each day,
Is born in the heart of some one, and fate
Created it, for some who will not share
The sun, nor the moon, nor the stars.

In such a world, what school is there
To teach us to live?—John Green.

THE COST OF A TRAIN.

At the time when the first open court of law was established in Russia, a lady, dressed with the utmost elegance, was walking on the Moscow promenade, beaming upon her husband's arm, and letting the long train of her rich dress sweep the dust and dirt of the street.

A young officer, coming hastily from a side street, was severely castigated by one of his spurs in the lady's train, and in instant a great piece was torn out of the costly but frail material of the dress.

"I beg a thousand pardons, madam," said the officer, with a polite bow, and then was about passing on, when he was detained by the lady's husband.

"You have insulted my wife."

"Nothing is farther from my intentions, sir. Your wife's high dress is to blame for the accident, which I sincerely regret, and I beg you once more to receive my apologies for any carelessness on my part." Therupon he attempted to hasten on.

"You shall not escape," said the lady, with her head thrown back in a spirited way. "Today is the first time I have worn this dress, and it cost two hundred rubles which you must make good."

"My dear madam, I beg you not to do me this injury. I am obliged to go on duty at once. As to the two hundred rubles—I really cannot help the length of your dress, yet I beg your pardon for not having been more cautious."

The judge, thus appealed to, decided promptly.

"The president of the convention was required to draw up and present to the president of the United States a letter setting the urgent necessity of action by the general government on behalf of the sections ravaged."

The governors of Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Colorado, Wyoming, Dakota, and Idaho were requested to transmit to their respective delegates a record of the proceedings of the convention and request them to urge on congress speedy action in this matter.

"It is necessary that grasshoppers have not done the amount of damage mentioned; that they can be encountered, and exterminated with much less labor and difficulty than heretofore supposed by limited effort at the proper time. No fears need be entertained as to serious results in the coming spring."

The Difference.

A boy about three feet high yesterday walked up and down in front of a Grand River avenue harness shop for a long time, and the proprietor finally went to the door and asked him if he was looking for anybody inside.

"I want a comb," replied the boy, pulling out five or six nickels.

"I guess so," said the boy in a hesitating voice.

"Well, don't you know what you want?"

"I know when I left home, but I've been through two awful fights and sold my dog since then, and I don't remember whether it was coarse comb or not."

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"The officer is right, madam. You are obliged to hand him over the dress on the spot."

"I can't undress myself here before all those people, and no harm without any excuse," said the young woman, with anger and tears.

You should have thought of that sooner. Now you have no time to lose. Either sweep up the dress of your own accord, or—" A nod that could not be misinterpreted brought to the lady's side two officers of justice, who seemed about to take upon themselves the office of my lady's maid.

"Take your money back, and leave me alone."

"Oh, no, madam, that dress is now worth more than two hundred rubles to me."

"How much do you ask for it?"

"Two hundred rubles," said the officer firmly.

"I will pay the sum," the weeping boy's husband responded, promptly. "I have here five hundred rubles. Give me pen and paper and I will write an order upon my banker for the remaining fifteen hundred."

After he had written the draft the weeping boy withdrew, amidst sobs from the audience.

"Quoth the boy, even again let her dress sweep the street."

held up her head, and the energy with which she shook it quite uselessly. The judge was just going on to further consider the case, when a loud voice was heard from the audience.

"I will place the two hundred rubles at the service of the defendant."

There followed a silence, during which a gentleman forced his way through the crowd and placed himself by the young officer's side.

"Sir, I am the Prince of W.—, and beg you will oblige me by accepting the sum of the two hundred rubles in question."

"Prince, I am not worthy of your kindness, for I don't know if I shall ever be able to pay the loan," answered the young man, in a voice tremulous with emotion.

"Take the money at all events, I can wait until you are able to return it."

The reason the prince held out two notes of a hundred rubles each, and coming close up to him, whispered a few words very softly. There was a shadow lighting in the young officer's face. He immediately took the two notes, and turning toward the lady, handed them to her with a polite bow.

"I hope, madame, you are satisfied?" With a malicious smile she reached out her hand for the money.

"Yes, now I am satisfied." With a scowl of displeasure over the crowd, she prepared to leave the court room on her husband's arm.

"Stop, madame!" said the officer, who had suddenly become like another man, with a firm and confident manner.

"What do you want?"

The lad, who was insolent as possible, said: "I want my dress," he answered, with a slight but still perfectly polite bow.

"Give me your address," I will send it to you."

"Oh, no, my dear madam, I am in the habit of making my purchases with cash only. Turn me with the dress immediately."

A shout of approbation came from the gallery.

"Order!" cried the judge.

"What an inane demand," said the lady, holding up her dress. "My wife cannot afford to keep it."

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